

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. A preconnectorized outdoor cable comprising:
 - a messenger section, the messenger section comprising at least one strength component and a jacket surrounding the at least one strength component;
 - a carrier section, the carrier section comprising a jacket and a tube, at least one optical waveguide disposed within the tube, the optical waveguide being at least partially disposed along a path and having an excess fiber length (EFL) greater than about 0.0% to about 3.2%;
 - a web connecting the respective jackets of the messenger and carrier sections; and
 - at least one plug connector, the at least one plug connector being attached to a first end of the cable, thereby connectorizing a first end of the optical waveguide.
2. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, the at least one plug connector further comprising a crimp housing, the crimp housing comprising two half-shells, the two half-shells having a curvilinear longitudinal passageway therethrough for routing the at least one optical waveguide, and the two half-shells being held together by a crimp band.
3. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, the at least one plug connector comprising a crimp assembly and a connector assembly, wherein the crimp assembly includes a crimp housing and a crimp band and the connector assembly includes a connector housing and a ferrule.
4. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 3, wherein the crimp housing comprises two half-shells, the two half-shells having a curvilinear longitudinal passageway therethrough and at least one cable clamping portion, the at least one cable clamping

portion securing at least one strength component of the cable, and the two half-shells being held together by the crimp band.

5. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 4, one of the 5 half-shells having at least one rib.

6. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 3, wherein the crimp housing comprises two half-shells, the two half-shells having a curvilinear longitudinal passageway therethrough, at 10 least one cable clamping portion, and a connector assembly clamping portion, the at least one cable clamping portion securing at least one strength component of the cable and the connector assembly clamping portion securing a portion of the connector assembly, and the two half-shells being held together 15 by the crimp band.

7. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, further comprising a heat shrink tube for weatherproofing the preconnectorized outdoor cable, the heat shrink tube being 20 disposed over a portion of the at least one plug connector and a portion of the jackets.

8. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, the at least one plug connector further comprising a shroud having a first end 25 and a second end, and a coupling nut.

9. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 8, the shroud defining a pair of openings on opposite sides of the first end, the opening extending lengthwise from a medial portion of the 30 shroud to the first end of the shroud, wherein the ferrule is accessible within the first end of the shroud.

10. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 8, further comprising a heat shrink tube for weatherproofing the

preconnectorized outdoor cable, the heat shrink tube being disposed about the second end of the shroud and a portion of the cable jacket.

5 11. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 8, further comprising an O-ring disposed on the shroud for weatherproofing the at least one plug connector.

10 12. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, the at least one plug connector further comprising a shroud having a first end and a second end, wherein the shroud has at least one alignment indicia for indicating a mating orientation.

15 13. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, the at least one plug connector further comprising a shroud having a first end and a second end, the shroud has a plurality of fingers for mating with a complementary receptacle, wherein at least two of the fingers have different profiles for keying the plug connector with the complementary receptacle.

20 14. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, the at least one plug connector having a protective cap and a retention wire, wherein the protective cap is attached to the at least one plug connector by a retention wire.

25 15. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, a plurality of the components of the at least one plug connector being formed from a UV stabilized material.

30 16. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, the cable having two plug connectors.

17. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 1, a dry insert being disposed within the tube.

18. A preconnectorized outdoor cable, comprising:
a messenger section, the messenger section comprising at
least one strength component and a jacket surrounding the at least
5 one strength component;
a carrier section, the carrier section including at least one
optical waveguide and a jacket;
a web connecting the respective jackets of the messenger
section and carrier section; and
10 at least one plug connector, the at least one plug connector
being attached to a first end of the cable, thereby
connectorizing a first end of the optical waveguide, wherein the
at least one plug connector comprises a crimp assembly, the crimp
assembly includes a crimp housing, the crimp housing comprises
15 two half-shells, the two half-shells having a curvilinear
longitudinal passageway therethrough for routing the at least one
optical waveguide, and the two half-shells being held together by
a crimp band.

20 19. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, the at least
one plug connector further comprising a crimp housing, the crimp
housing comprising two half-shells, the two half-shells having a
curvilinear longitudinal passageway therethrough for routing the
at least one optical waveguide, and the two half-shells being
25 held together by a crimp band.

20. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, one of the
half-shells having at least one rib.

30 21. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, the two
half-shells further comprising:
at least one cable clamping portion, the at least one cable
clamping portion securing at least one strength component of the
cable;

a connector assembly clamping portion, the connector assembly clamping portion securing a portion of the connector assembly; and

a crimp band, the crimp band holding together the two half-

5 shells.

22. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, further comprising a heat shrink tube for weatherproofing the preconnectorized outdoor cable, the heat shrink tube being disposed over a portion of the at least one plug connector and a portion of the jackets.

10 23. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, the at least one plug connector further comprising a shroud having a first end and a second end, and a coupling nut.

15 24. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 23, the shroud defining a pair of openings on opposite sides of the first end, the opening extending lengthwise from a medial portion of the shroud to the first end of the shroud, wherein the ferrule is accessible within the first end of the shroud.

20 25. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 23, further comprising a heat shrink tube for weatherproofing the preconnectorized outdoor cable, the heat shrink tube being disposed about the second end of the shroud and a portion of the cable jacket.

26. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 23, further comprising an O-ring disposed on the shroud for weatherproofing the at least one plug connector.

30 27. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, the at least one plug connector further comprising a shroud having a first end

and a second end, wherein the shroud has at least one alignment indicia for indicating a mating orientation.

28. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, the at least 5 one plug connector further comprising a shroud having a first end and a second end, the shroud has a plurality of fingers for mating with a complementary receptacle, wherein at least two of the fingers have different profiles for keying the plug connector with the complementary receptacle.

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29. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, the at least one plug connector having a protective cap and a retention wire, wherein the protective cap is attached to the at least one plug connector by a retention wire.

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30. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, a plurality of the components of the at least one plug connector being formed from a UV stabilized material.

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31. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, the cable having two plug connectors.

32. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 18, the carrier section having a dry insert.

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33. A preconnectorized outdoor cable, comprising:
a messenger section, said messenger section comprising at least one strength component and a jacket of the messenger section surrounding the at least one strength component;
30 a carrier section being a tubeless configuration that excludes a strength component, the carrier section including at least one optical fiber and at least one water-swellable element disposed within a passageway of a jacket of the carrier section;

a web connecting said respective jackets of the messenger section and the carrier section; and

5 at least one plug connector, the at least one plug connector being attached to a first end of the cable, thereby connectorizing a first end of the optical waveguide.

10 34. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, the at least one plug connector further comprising a crimp housing, the crimp housing comprising two half-shells, the two half-shells having a curvilinear longitudinal passageway therethrough for routing the at least one optical waveguide, and the two half-shells being held together by a crimp band.

15 35. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, the at least one plug connector comprising a crimp assembly and a connector assembly, wherein the crimp assembly includes a crimp housing and a crimp band and the connector assembly includes a connector housing and a ferrule.

20 36. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 34, the crimp housing having at least one cable clamping portion, the at least one cable clamping portion securing at least one strength component of the cable.

25 37. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 34, one of the half-shells having at least one rib for securing the at least one strength component.

30 38. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 34, the two half-shells further comprising:

at least one cable clamping portion, the at least one cable clamping portion securing at least one strength component of the cable; and

a connector assembly clamping portion, the connector assembly clamping portion securing a portion of the connector assembly.

5 39. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, further comprising a heat shrink tube for weatherproofing the preconnectorized outdoor cable, the heat shrink tube being disposed over a portion of the at least one plug connector and a portion of the jackets.

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40. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, the at least one plug connector further comprising a shroud having a first end and a second end, and a coupling nut.

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41. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 40, the shroud defining a pair of openings on opposite sides of the first end, the opening extending lengthwise from a medial portion of the shroud to the first end of the shroud, wherein the ferrule is accessible within the first end of the shroud.

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42. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 40, further comprising a heat shrink tube for weatherproofing the preconnectorized outdoor cable, the heat shrink tube being disposed about the second end of the shroud and a portion of the cable jacket.

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43. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 40, further comprising an O-ring disposed on the shroud for weatherproofing the at least one plug connector.

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44. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, the at least one plug connector further comprising a shroud having a first end and a second end, wherein the shroud has at least one alignment indicia for indicating a mating orientation.

45. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, the at least one plug connector further comprising a shroud having a first end and a second end, the shroud has a plurality of fingers for

5 mating with a complementary receptacle, wherein at least two of the fingers have different profiles for keying the plug connector with the complementary receptacle.

46. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, the at least

10 one plug connector having a protective cap and a retention wire, wherein the protective cap is attached to the at least one plug connector by a retention wire.

47. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, a plurality

15 of the components of the at least one plug connector being formed from a UV stabilized material.

48. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, the cable

having two plug connectors.

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49. The preconnectorized outdoor cable of claim 33, the water-swellable element being a portion of a dry insert.